

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 625

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

"AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST 1851

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GE, GW, WB

SUBJECT: IZVESTIYA COMMENTARY ON FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY

1. SIGNED COMMENTARY IN JULY 7 IZVESTIYA (BY G. SIDOROV)
DESCRIBES BUNDESTAG PASSAGE OF BILL AUTHORIZING FOUNDING OF
FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY (FEA) IN WEST BERLIN AS AN ACT
STANDING IN "CRASS CONTRADICTION TO THE SPIRIT AND LETTER"
OF THE "FOUR POWER AGREEMENT ON WEST BERLIN." COMMENTARY
WARNS THAT QA IS A FINELY BALANCED COMPROMISE OF INTERESTS,
AND THAT FOUNDING OF FEA CAN ONLY BE REGARDED AS AN ATTEMPT
TO DISTURB THAT BALANCE. FINAL PARAGRAPH OF ARTICLE IS A
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WARNING TO THOSE WHO WOULD "COMPLICATE THE SITUATION" AROUND

WEST BERLIN TO CONSIDER THAT THE POPULATION OF WEST BERLIN ITSELF WILL BEAR THE BRUNT OF ANY CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR ACTIVITIES.

2. COMMENTARY CONCEDES THAT FEA BILL WAS PASSED UNDER PRESSURE FROM THE OPPOSITION AND THE BERLIN SENAT, BUT ALSO STATES THAT "CERTAIN CIRCLES" OF THE RULING COALITION ARE AMONG THOSE WHO ARE ATTEMPTING TO UNDERMINE THE QA. OTHERS IN THIS CLASSIFICATION ARE THE CDU/CSU DEPUTIES WHO TRAVELED TO WEST BERLIN TO CELEBRATE JUNE 17 AND WHILE THERE ENGAGED IN "CRUDE AND LIBELOUS ATTACKS" ON THE GDR.

3. COMMENTARY IS FAIRLY SHARP IN TONE. IMPLIED WARNING THAT WEST BERLINERS WILL BE THE ONES TO SUFFER IF THE FINE BALANCE OF THE QA IS DISTURBED IS A LINE WHICH HAS NOT APPEARED IN SOVIET PRESS IN SOME TIME. PERHAPS MOST INTERESTING ASPECT OF COMMENTARY IS ITS CONNECTION OF AT LEAST SOME MEMBERS OF GOVERNING COALITION WITH ATTEMPTS TO "COMPLICATE THE SITUATION" IN WEST BERLIN. SOVIET PRESS IN GENERAL HAS HANDLED THE NEW GOVERNMENT WITH KID GLOVES UP TO THIS POINT, AND TYING ITS SUPPORTERS TO THE STANDARD GROUPINGS OF WEST GERMAN "COLD WARRIORS" IS A NEW DEPARTURE. STOESSEL

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